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10/602,419

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Andrew R. Ferlitsch

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MADSON & AUSTIN

15 WEST SOUTH TEMPLE

SUITE 900

SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101

EXAMINER

PHAM, THIERRY L

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/602,419 | Applicant(s) FERLITSCH, ANDREW R. | |
| | Examiner THIERRY L. PHAM | Art Unit 2625 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5-17 and 19-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5-17, and 19-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

- This action is responsive to the following communication: RCE filed on 1/2/08.
- Claims 1, 5-17, and 19-30 are currently pending; claims 2-4 & 18 have been canceled.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/2/08 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 5-17, 19-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka et al (US 6519048) and in view of Leiman et al (US 6469796), and further in view of Mochizuki (US 7113298).

Regarding claim 1, Tanaka discloses a method for monitoring (monitoring a print job, fig. 5-7) an imaging job sent to an imaging device (network printer, fig. 1 & 7) by a computer system (host computer, fig. 1 & 7), the method comprising:

- sending (sending via network 109, fig. 1 & 7) an imaging job to an imaging device (network printer, fig. 1 & 7);
- receiving (receiving by network printer, fig. 1 & 7) the imaging job at the imaging device;

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- discovering (address extracting means for extracting network address of host computer that has been embedded in the print job, col. 5, lines 30-35) an implicit network address from the imaging job, wherein the discovering comprises extracting an IP address (extracting IP address of computer system that sent the print job, col. 5, lines 30-65) of the computer system from the transmission of the imaging job data packets (col. 5, lines 33-35);
- starting (starting processing the print job by network printer, fig. 7) the imaging job at the imaging device; and
- sending (sending via network 109, fig. 1 & 7) a status message (status message, fig. 7, col. 5, lines 35-40) for the imaging job to the network address;
- receiving (transmitting status message from printer to host computer, fig. 7) the status message by the computer system; and
- verifying (the status message is sent to the IP address of the host computer that was embedded in the print job packet, therefore, the computer that receives the status message must verify whether the status message belongs to that computer, in other words, only computer with matched IP address is able to receive status message, col. 7, lines 40-47), by the computer system, that the imaging job of the status message originated on the computer system.

Tanaka fails to teach and/or suggest discovering the implicit network address is achieved without using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job.

Leiman, in the same field of endeavor for monitoring print job status, teaches a well-known example of discovering the implicit network address is achieved without using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job (print server detects IP address of each device in a network without having to embed in it the print job, figs. 5-31). Source computers can be identified by its name (e.g. CPU1) or owner's name (AWM1, fig. 8-9). The examiner herein interprets client's computer name such as CPU1 as network address. It is well known in the art that network address can be represented by IP address, computer's name, geographical location, and etc. as long as users and/or administrators can identify it. In addition, all computers which are connected to the network must be identified by some type of identifications (e.g. owner's name, computer's name, IP address, and etc).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify obtaining method for network address as taught by Tanaka to include a well-known example of discovering the implicit network address is achieved without (print server detects IP address of each devices in a network without having to embedded in it the print job, figs. 5-31) using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job as taught by Leiman because of a following reason: (●) allowing multiple users to view print job status of others including his/her own by registering network address with printer's server (open printing system as shown in figs. 1-3).

In addition, Tanaka fails to teach and/or suggest wherein the status message is ignored if it is not verified, wherein the status message is processed if it is verified.

Mochizuki, in the same field of endeavor for printing, teaches a well-known example of a printing system (fig. 1) having a host computer (fig. 7) for verifying (response packet verification, col. 2, lines 28-31 and col. 9, lines 31-67) the status message and wherein the status message is ignored (col. 9, lines 48-52) if it is not verified, wherein the status message is processed if it is verified (col. 9, lines 31-67 and col. 10, lines 52-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modifying printing system of Tanaka to include a method for verifying (by a host computer) status message transmitted by the printer, and wherein the status message is ignored if it is not verified, and wherein the status message is processed if it is verified as taught by Mochizuki to ensure an effective management and operation without any need for redefinition on the print requester (col. 1, lines 54-59 of Mochizuki) by checking and verifying the status message via the host computer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Tanaka with Leiman and Mochizuki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claims 5, Leiman further teaches imaging device is selected from the group consisting of a printer, a scanner, a fax machine, a copier and a document server (selecting a device for processing a print job is well known and widely available use in the art, fig. 5).

Regarding claim 6, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising registering (fig. 7) a client computing device with an imaging server (printer server, fig. 7) to receive notifications regarding the imaging job.

Regarding claim 8, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 6, further comprising sending the imaging job from the client computing device to the imaging server (print server, col. 4, lines 1-5) before the imaging job is sent to the imaging device.

Regarding claim 9, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 8, further comprising receiving the status message by the imaging server and sending the status message from (from printer server to client computer, fig. 7) the imaging server to the client computing device.

Regarding claim 10, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 9, further comprising verifying (verification process as shown in fig. 7) that the imaging job of the status message originated on the client computing device.

Regarding claim 11, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 9, further comprising verifying (verification process as shown in fig. 7) that the imaging job of the status message was communicated through the imaging server.

Regarding claim 12, Leiman further teaches an example of receiving the status message by a monitor (fig. 15) on a client computing device or printer's server monitor.

Regarding claim 13, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 8, further comprising receiving the status message by the imaging server and sending the status message from the imaging server to a monitor (cols. 5-6) on the client computing device.

Regarding claim 14, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 8, further comprising receiving the status message by a server monitor on the imaging server and sending the status message from the server monitor on the imaging server to a monitor (status message for user to view, cols. 5-6) on the client computing device.

Regarding claim 15, Tanaka further discloses the method of claim 6, wherein registering (register IP address of client computer, fig. 7, cols. 5-6) the client computing device with the imaging server includes providing a client computing device address to the imaging server.

Regarding claim 16, Tanaka discloses a set of executable instructions on a computer readable medium (memory, col. 8, lines 35-46) for:

- receiving (receiving by network printer, fig. 1 & 7) the imaging job at the imaging device;
- discovering (address extracting means for extracting network address of host computer that has been embedded in the print job, col. 5, lines 30-35) an implicit network address from the imaging job, wherein the discovering comprises extracting an IP address (extracting IP address of computer system that sent the print job, col. 5, lines 30-65) of the computer system from the transmission of the imaging job data packets (col. 5, lines 33-35);
- starting (starting processing the print job by network printer, fig. 7) the imaging job at the imaging device; and
- sending (sending via network 109, fig. 1 & 7) a status message (status message, fig. 7, col. 5, lines 35-40) for the imaging job to the network address;
- receiving (transmitting status message from printer to host computer, fig. 7) the status message by the computer system; and
- verifying (the status message is sent to the IP address of the host computer that was embedded in the print job packet, therefore, the computer that receives the status message must verify whether the status message belong to that computer, in other words, only computer with matched

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IP address is able to receive status message, col. 7, lines 40-47), by the computer system, that the imaging job of the status message originated on the computer system.

Tanaka fails to teach and/or suggest discovering the implicit network address is achieved without using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job.

Leiman, in the same field of endeavor for monitoring print job status, teaches a well-known example of discovering the implicit network address is achieved without using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job (print server detects IP address of each devices in a network without having to embedded in it the print job, figs. 5-31). Source computers can be identified by its name (e.g. CPU1) or owner's name (AWM1, fig. 8-9). The examiner herein interprets client's computer name such as CPU1 as network address. It is well known in the art that network address can be represented by IP address, computer's name, geographical location, and etc. as long as users and/or administrators can identify it. In addition, all computers which are connected to the network must be identified by some type of identifications (e.g. owner's name, computer's name, IP address, and etc).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify obtaining method for network address as taught by Tanaka to include a well-known example of discovering the implicit network address is achieved without (print server detects IP address of each devices in a network without having to embedded in it the print job, figs. 5-31) using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job as taught by Leiman because of a following reason: (●) allowing multiple users to view print job status of others including his/her own by registering network address with printer's server (open printing system as shown in figs. 1-3).

In addition, Tanaka fails to teach and/or suggest wherein the status message is ignored if it is not verified, wherein the status message is processed if it is verified.

Mochizuki, in the same field of endeavor for printing, teaches a well-known example of a printing system (fig. 1) having a host computer (fig. 7) for verifying (response packet verification, col. 2, lines 28-31 and col. 9, lines 31-67) the status message and wherein the status

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message is ignored (col. 9, lines 48-52) if it is not verified, wherein the status message is processed if it is verified (col. 9, lines 31-67 and col. 10, lines 52-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modifying printing system of Tanaka to include a method for verifying (by a host computer) status message transmitted by the printer, and wherein the status message is ignored if it is not verified, and wherein the status message is processed if it is verified as taught by Mochizuki to ensure an effective management and operation without any need for redefinition on the print requester (col. 1, lines 54-59 of Mochizuki) by checking and verifying the status message via the host computer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Tanaka with Leiman and Mochizuki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 16.

Regarding claims 17, Leiman further teaches imaging device is selected from the group consisting of a printer, a scanner, a fax machine, a copier and a document server (selecting a device for processing a print job is well known and widely available use in the art, fig. 5).

Regarding claims 19-22, Tanaka further discloses a computer-readable medium (e.g. RAM or ROM, fig. 4) that is part of printer, scanner, fax, print server, and etc (it is well known that all printers, computer, fax device server includes a storage device).

Regarding claim 23, Tanaka further discloses an imaging system (printing system, fig. 1 & 7) configured to implement a method for monitoring (monitoring a print job, fig. 5-7) an imaging job for use with an imaging device that utilizes implicit network address discovery, the imaging system comprising:

- a computing device (host computer, fig. 7);
- an imaging device (network printer, fig. 7) in electronic communication with the computing device;

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- executable instructions (instructions as shown in fig. 5-7) executable on the computing device, wherein the executable instructions are configured for:
- allowing a client computing device to register with the imaging system to receive notifications regarding an imaging job;
- receiving the imaging job (fig. 7) from the client computing device;
- sending (sending via network 109, fig. 1 & 7) the imaging job to the imaging device, wherein the imaging device discovers (address extracting means for extracting network address of host computer that has been embedded in the print job, col. 5, lines 30-35) an implicit network address from the imaging job and sends a status message for the imaging job to the network address;
- receiving (receiving by network printer, fig. 1 & 7) a status message from the imaging device relating to the imaging job, and wherein the discovering comprises extracting an IP address (extracting IP address of computer system that sent the print job, col. 5, lines 30-65) of the computer system from the transmission of the imaging job data packets (col. 5, lines 33-35);
- using registration (address of client computer, fig. 7, cols. 5-6) information to identify the client computing device; and
- sending the status message (status message, fig. 7, col. 5, lines 35-40) to the client computing device.
- receiving (transmitting status message from printer to host computer, fig. 7) the status message by the computer system; and
- verifying (the status message is sent to the IP address of the host computer that was embedded in the print job packet, therefore, the computer that receives the status message must verifies whether the status message belong to that computer, in other words, only computer with matched IP address is able to receive status message, col. 7, lines 40-47), by the computer system, that the imaging job of the status message originated on the computer system.

Tanaka fails to teach and/or suggest discovering the implicit network address is achieved without using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job.

Leiman, in the same field of endeavor for monitoring print job status, teaches a well-known example of discovering the implicit network address is achieved without using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job (print server detects IP address of each devices in a network without having to embedded in it the print job, figs. 5-31). Source computers can be identified by its name (e.g. CPU1) or owner's name (AWM1, fig. 8-9). The examiner herein interprets client's computer name such as CPU1 as network address. It is well known in the art that network address can be represented by IP address, computer's name, geographical location, and etc. as long as users and/or administrators can identify it. In addition, all computers which are connected to the network must be identified by some type of identifications (e.g. owner's name, computer's name, IP address, and etc).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify obtaining method for network address as taught by Tanaka to include a well-known example of discovering the implicit network address is achieved without (print server detects IP address of each devices in a network without having to embedded in it the print job, figs. 5-31) using an explicit process of a monitoring process in the imaging job as taught by Leiman because of a following reason: (●) allowing multiple users to view print job status of others including his/her own by registering network address with printer's server (open printing system as shown in figs. 1-3).

In addition, Tanaka fails to teach and/or suggest wherein the status message is ignored if it is not verified, wherein the status message is processed if it is verified.

Mochizuki, in the same field of endeavor for printing, teaches a well-known example of a printing system (fig. 1) having a host computer (fig. 7) for verifying (response packet verification, col. 2, lines 28-31 and col. 9, lines 31-67) the status message and wherein the status message is ignored (col. 9, lines 48-52) if it is not verified, wherein the status message is processed if it is verified (col. 9, lines 31-67 and col. 10, lines 52-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modifying printing system of Tanaka to include a method for verifying (by a host computer) status message transmitted by the printer, and wherein the status message is ignored if it is not verified, and wherein the status message is processed if it is verified as taught by

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Mochizuki to ensure an effective management and operation without any need for redefinition on the print requester (col. 1, lines 54-59 of Mochizuki) by checking and verifying the status message via the host computer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Tanaka with Leiman and Mochizuki to obtain the invention as specified in claim 23.

Regarding claim 24, Tanaka further discloses the imaging system of claim 23, further comprising a server monitor for receiving the status message on the imaging server and for sending the status message from the server monitor on the imaging server to a monitor (status message to be displayed on user's monitor, fig. 7, cols. 5-6) on the client computing device.

Regarding claim 25, Tanaka further discloses the imaging system of claim 24, wherein the registration information includes a client computing device address (device ID, cols. 5-6).

Regarding claim 26, wherein it recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claim 23 above; therefore, claim 26 is rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claim 23.

Regarding claim 27, Tanaka further discloses the system of claim 26, further comprising an imaging server in electronic communication with the computing device and the imaging device, wherein the imaging job is sent from the computing device to (from client to printer server, fig. 7) the imaging server, and wherein the imaging server sends the imaging job to the imaging device (then from printer server to printer, fig. 7, cols. 5-6).

Regarding claim 28, the combination of Tanaka, Leiman, and Mochizuki teaches the system of claim 27, wherein the imaging server (print server, fig. 7) is configured for: allowing a client computing device to register with the imaging server to receive notification regarding the imaging job; Receiving the imaging job from the client computing device; sending the imaging

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job to the imaging device, wherein the imaging device discovers an implicit network address from the imaging job and sends a status message for the imaging job to the network address, wherein the discovering of the implicit network address is achieved without using an explicit address in the imaging job, and wherein the discovering comprises extracting an IP address (extracting IP address as per teachings of Tanaka, see rejection to claim 1 for more details) of the imaging server from the transmission of the imaging job data packets; receiving a status message from the imaging job data packets; receiving a status message from the imaging device relating to the imaging job; using registration information to identify the client computing device; sending the status message to the client computing device; and verifying, by the client computing device, that the imaging job of the status message originated on the computing device, wherein the status message is ignored if it is not verified, wherein the status message is processed if it is verified (verification as per teachings by Mochizuki, see rejection to claim 1 for more details).

Regarding claim 29, Leiman further teaches the system of claim 28, further comprising a server monitor (fig. 15) for receiving the status message on the imaging server and for sending the status message from the server monitor on the imaging server to a monitor on the client computing device.

Regarding claim 30, Tanaka further discloses the imaging system of claim 24, wherein the registration information includes a client computing device address (device ID, cols. 5-6).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 16, 23, and 26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection via using newly found prior art reference (US 7113298 to Mochizuki) to address the newly added features/limitations (e.g. verification process).

Applicant's arguments, see page 10, filed 1/2/08, with respect to the specification have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of the specification has been withdrawn.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THIERRY L. PHAM whose telephone number is (571)272-7439. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 AM - 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thierry L. Pham

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Thierry L. Pham', written in a cursive style.